

REMARKS

Status of Application

Claims 1-24 are the claims that have been examined in the application. Claims 1-10, 15 and 23-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,243,707), in view of Wugoski (U.S. Patent 6,690,392), previously cited on PTO 892 dated August 6, 2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-10, 15 and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,243,707), in view of Wugoski (U.S. Patent 6,690,392), previously cited on PTO 892 dated August 6, 2007.

Claim 1 recites, “a control unit which collects the remote control service list information from each of the respective devices, stores the collected information in the storage unit, and provides a certain device in the network with a remote control service to remote control at least one of the respective devices through a graphic user interface.” The Examiner alleges that a combination of Humpleman and Wugoski would render claim 1 obvious. Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner concedes that Humpleman fails to disclose a central storage unit as recited in claim 1. Wugoski discloses system software for automatic generation of macro commands. Specifically, Wugoski discloses that a macro may contain commands initiated by a remote control device. Lines 6-16 of Wugoski indicate that a user may enter a macro element for controlling the launch of a web browser, launching an electronic program guide (EPG) and turning on a CD jukebox, among other functions.

However, claim 1 recites that the control unit “collects the remote control service list information and stores the collected information in the storage unit.” Since the Examiner concedes that Humpleman fails to disclose a central storage unit, Humpleman also cannot disclose that the control unit disclosed in Humpleman “collects the remote control service list information and stores the collected information in the storage unit.” Wugoski, on the other hand, only stores remote control service information entered by a user. Thus, Wugoski does not *collect and store* information from each of the respective devices, as recited in claim 1, but rather only collects and stores that information entered by a user. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the Examiner’s proposed combination, as the proposed combination fails to disclose all of the aspects of claim 1.

Further, Humpleman would teach away from combination with the storage unit of Wugoski. Humpleman stores the graphical user interface (GUI) for each of a plurality of devices remotely at the device so that a browser based DTV can provide a command and control interface without having to know any specific details about the particular device. See col. 7, lines 1-10 of Humpleman. By not storing the information, Humpleman discloses a system in which allows a home network to contain home devices from a multitude of different manufacturers. See col. 7, lines 8-10 of Humpleman. Wugoski, on the other hand, discloses a program of instructions configured to be executed by the processor and stored in the memory, the program including instructions configured to select a sequence of at least one remote control command and at least one user interface command, and to assign the sequence of commands to at least one user interface. Thus, according to Wugoski, the interface would need to know the specific details about a particular device in order to determine the function of the sequence of

commands. Therefore, Wugoski functions in a manner inconsistent with that of Humpleman, and would teach away from the combination proposed by the Examiner.

Claims 2-24 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Dion R. Ferguson/

Dion R. Ferguson
Registration No. 59,561

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 29, 2008